

**Amendments to the Specification:**

On page 1, replace the paragraph beginning with the following:

**--CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS:**

This application is a continuation of prior Application No.: 09/866,461, filed on May 24, 2001, entitled, "SURGICAL SEAL" by Edward Almond and Peter Moran, which further claims priority to Great Britain Application No.: 0012461.0, filed May 24, 2000, entitled, "SURGICAL SEAL" by Edward Almond and Peter Moran.--